## THE FORTIETH CONGRESS.

From Our Special Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, July 16, 1867. The old Representative Hall is now a recoptacle for miscellaneous statuary. Washington, Kosciusko, Lincoln, Colfax, Tecumsel, in sandone and marble, plaster and bronze, stare at the wondering visitor. The chamber, modeled upon a Grecian theater, is half circular, 100 feet long, 65 high to the top of its bowl-like dome, surrounded by 28 columns of dark Petomac marble, with a strip of gallery behind them barely large enough for 208

Cone are the hospitable stone fire-places at the south end. Darkened are those pleasant windows where the fresh Potomac breeze flowed in. The old bails were far better ventilated than the new, which are interior on all sides, and look out of doors only through the roof. The ancient hair-cloth chairs are here. The old stone cagle is still taking flight from the wall. It is better than most sculpture about the Capitol; but just after it was put up, fifty years ago, some newspaper critic likened it to a hawk nailed to a barn-door. What artist could ever bear the reviling of his offspring ? The young Italian who had

chiseled it drowned himself in the Potomac. The ancient lobbies and staircases we should call very narrow, even for a private house. Here, now a post-office, is the old room of the Speaker, where John Quincy Adams was brought to die. It is plain and narrow as a hermit's cell. Now we give the very doorkeeper an office with the dimensions of a lecture hall, and the upholstery of a palace. Opposite, in the little room then used for the mails, Abraham Lincoln, Representative from Illinois, delighted to sit, telling stories, with feet over the fire-place, while the member from Buncombe was making his speech. In those days nobody listened to Congressional bores. The whole story below this was cut into committeerooms, each with its plain wails, brick-paved passages, and comfortable fire-place. There members wrote and talked while the orator above addressed empty benches, content to know that the speech would be printed for his constituents. When a vote was to be taken, the Speaker's page touched a brass knob; "tinkle," "tinkle," sounded a dozen bells through the long passages, and members came trooping up the narrow stairs to record their names. Gas there was not. Night sessions were illuminated by oil-lamps from reflectors and chandeliers.

Here sat our grandfathers in knee-breeches, silk stockings, silver shoe-buckles and powdered hair. Here for P. years, from the Speaker's chair, Henry Clay announced decisions in his rich, modulated voice, and emphasized them with his long, waving arm. Here, in presence of the invited Senate, half a century after the kevolution, he welcomed the aged Lafayette in the name of the American people, already great, presperous, and happy. It was a The whole story below this was ent into committee-

the aged Larsyette in the name of the American peo-ple, already great, prosperous, and happy. It was a rare pageaut. "Sir," said the young crater to the illustrious guest, "you stand in the midst of poster-ity?" The same Congress veted to Lafayette 24,000 acros of public land and \$200,000. In the new Hall, his full-length portrait by Vanderiyn stands on the speaker's left, corresponding with Feale's Washing-lon on his right.

Here, for 16 years, sat John Raudolph, with great, dark eyes, smooth brown hair, parting in the middle, girlish forchead, game form, shrill voice, and long, cloquent forchinger—full of bitter speeches, and "bearing a life-long hunger in his heart." Here came the aged Benton, after 30 continuous years in the Senate; Cerwin and Crittenden, also from the higher chamber; and John Quincey Adams for nine terms, after he had occupied the White House. When a retractory Clerk kept the House disorganized for four days, by refusing to call the New Jersey delegation, in one indignant speech the "old man cloquent" carried all members with him, and thundering "I propose to put the question myself," brought order out of chaos.

Mere, for long years, facing every obloquy and danger, he fought for the Rucht of Petition; and when the House proposed to censure him, simply, grandly demanded that the Clerk should read the Declaration of Independence for his defense. Here, in his last years, members used to throng about that bald head to listen for every word from that tremulous voice; and once, when he entered, after illness, the whole House stoed up as one man to greet him. Here, finally, at 88, just by that figure of the dying Tecamisch, he rose to address the Chair, staggered, fell, gasped out. "This is the end of carth—I am content—and then, like Nicanor, lay dead in his harness. For him this chapel was all draped in sable, save the muse of history still poised so gracefully over the door, with the clock-face for her chariot-wheel, and the recording pen in her hand. She stood, locking upon the coffined form was carried out.

Here for 21 years Giddings—large, dauntless, with snowy hair and scowling brow—denied that man could hold property in man. When the House censured him, he resigned. His constituents sent him back, and kept him here till his strong voice made itself andible. He lived to hear the Proclamation of Freedom; and his portrait—the only one of a recent out of chaos.

Here, for long years, facing every obloquy and

He lived to hear the Proclamation of merican—now hangs in the Rotunda.

Here the Kansas-Nebraska battle was fought. Who

has forgotten the tolling bells, and flags at half must throughout the North, when the bill was finally passed ! Somebody wittily characterized the strife

throughout the North, when the bill was finally passed? Somebody wittily characterized the strife as all about "an ideal Territory for a hypothetical negre;" but popular instinct already felt the air heavy with coming battle. Here, too, after a nine-week's strongle, Aiken of South Carolina conducted Banks of Massachusetts to the Speaker's chair. It was the tirst victory the North won.

Going from the old Hall to the new is like passing from a Quaker meeting-house to a scene in the Black Crook. Beautiful beyond dispute; but gandy with gilt and bronze, fresco and stained glass, marble and mosaic. The goddess of Liberty has a fair dowry; give her robes of state and crown jewels; but she is not a ballet girl to bespangle with brass, nor yet an Arapahoe sonaw that we should stain her checks with vormilion.

The new Hall, too, has its memories. Here the long Lecompton battle was fought and won. Here in '58, when Keitt threatened to dissolve the Union, Burlingame answered, pointing his finger at the Carolinian's sallow face, and lifting his voice till branzed yoof and niched walls rang with the climax:

besazed roof and niched walls rang with the climax:

It would not be right to do it; it would not be rappest to do it; it would not be SAFE to do it!"

Lat fell on a Southern battle-field. A stone in vonder Congressional Cemetery commemorates

Brooks. Here were the old, barbaric encounters—when Here were the old, barbaric encounters—when Keitt sprang at Grow, and the Pennsylvanian knocked him down; where Barksdale lost his wig; where an excited reporter seeing a rough-and-tumble right below, dropped his huge Bowie-knife on the floor, sprang over the railing to "go in"—and being there suspended by his coat-skirts from the press gallery till his restraining brethren drew him back. Here, after the John Brown raid, was the long contest about the Helper book in which so many Kornh.

Here, after the John Brown raid, was the long contest about the Helper book, in which so many Republicans who had indorsed it ate humble pie, but Owen Loveloy, in fierce, fiery speech from the Clerk's desk, sad to the Slave Propagandists: "You murdered my brother in Alton, 25 years ago, because you dared not hear him; now you shall hear me."

The present Representatives—the mob of gentlemen who talk with ease—sit, chiefly, in national black, but a few in white linen, for three or four hours daily. Some limp from Rebel bullets. Some, their political hopes blasted, bear in sad faces the marks of deeper wounds. One, under a great donestic grief, went into hermitage for 20 years, and has uestic grief, went into hermitage for 30 years, and has again come back to the busy areas. While most mem-bers are speaking, the rest write, talk, read newspapers, or clap their hands to call pages for letters and mes-sages. "A man who can debate in such a pandemo-mum must possess great self-control. But there are half-a-dozen whom the House hears with close at-

Thad dens Stevens is the first. Now, at 74, his weak voice is almost inaudible to the reporters. The in-stant he rises, all sounds are hushed; all distant members crowd around his desk, with heads bent for ward to catch every word from his trembling lips. intellectually, his speeches are the best in the House; hear, compact, direct, logical; but his power does not lie wholly in this; nor yet in his sagacity, for he is out voted half the time; nor in his wisdom, for he makes preposterons statements, like his late assertion that the country is almost unanimons for immediate mpeachment. What is the spell of this worn, wife-ess, childless old man, with his intense Puritan face, hollow cheeks, deep set eyes, and black wig, who totters along the asiles with cane and deformed to the grasses. On the whole, this is the set of this late as the totter of this late as the totters along the asiles with cane and deformed to the grasses. On the whole, this is the set of this late as the country and devoting to It is his steadfast sincerity and devotion to naple. He is the same who, 39 years ago, in Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention, ad-

principle. He is the same who, 39 years ago, in the Pennsylvania Constitutional Convention, advocated impartial suffrage; and who timing up his title to lots in a cemetery because, even there, at the portal of the next world, a black new's dust was not admitted. Thad, Stevens believes in something, and an ounce of conviction outweighs a tun of sagacity. Dawes insists that a translation of his confiscation speech was found among the papers of Juarez, after the death of Maximilian! But at this session he has expressed few extreme views. And his declaration on the floor that he feared to go near our modern, talse philanthropy, lest he should catch it himself, was exquisite.

Boutwell of Massachusetts, tall, stender, with large dark eyes and black beard just frosting with large dark eyes and black beard just frosting with age, is the most impressive speaker. Everybody listens to him. Shellabarger of Ohio always commands attention, and has emment ability. John A. Bingham—with scowling brow, and silvering mair thinly plastered over crown and forelead, and fringe of gray whiskers around his ower face—when he rises, in smit of gray, holds the House, but through earnestness, and magnetic force, as well as intellectual power. His colleague, Gen. Schenck, stout, thick-set, with clump, compressed German face, and heavy anburn hair and mustache—is a model of parliamentary speech. He never declaims; talks right to the point; a not the victim of rhetoric, and can go into a long par nthesis, come out, and resume the main thread exactly where he dropped it. Few extempore speakers and do that; parenthesis hath dain its thousand. Verson of lowa, Chairman of the Juenciary Com-W doon of lows, Chairman of the Judiciary Com- | just returned from a plan's tour abroad.

mittee, talks little, but earnestly, forcibly, commandingly. Kelley of Pennsylvania, tall, slender, with narrow brow half hidden by hair, is deep-voiced, dramatic, speaks with dexter interpretation of the Speaker, and quivering to his cadences. He delights to quench a Democratic crater with a question, or extinguish him with a fact. Garifeld of Ohio, large-browed, of generous culture and good presence, holds the House well. Banks, perhaps the abiest man on the whole floor, has not opened his lips this session. Hayes of Ohio, about to be elected Governor, has been here three years without making a speech, though he has few superiors, or, indeed, equals. Here shining examples! Butler of Massachusetts, restless, bold, always hitter and thither, now speaks but little. John A. Logan of Illinois, slender, hthe, small, with coal black hair, long, jet mustache, and tawney face, has a voice like a sledge-hammer, and roars like a boiler factory. He is the same gentleman who lately amounced on the floor that if he had captured. Jenerson Davis he would have murdered him; and who, eight years ago in the same hall, proclaimed his eagerness to hout and return runaway negroes.

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ago in the same hall, proclaimed his eagerness to hunt and return runaway negroes.

The Democratic side is weak, in numbers and in quality. James Brooks of New-York is most noticeable. He is 57, of sine presence, ample forchead, long, irea gray bair, and shrill voice. He is the Jeremiah of the Capitol. Every session he hammers on his chest, declares that we are in the midst of a revolution, and that opposing this measure is the proudest act of his life, and goes through history with a horse-take, from Marathon to Magna Charta. But, despite this tirred illustration, he is effective and pite this turgid illustration, be is effective and

erect, graceful, with small head, Grecian face, and short, heavy, snowy musiache. His speeches are direct, compact, and logical, but cold as marble. short, beavy, snowy musiache. His speeches are direct, compact, and logical, but cold as marble. Brooks declaims, Wood reasons; one is rhetorical, the other incisive; one a gong, his colleagus a bugle. The other day, with a curl of the lip, Wood observed, "Mr. Speaker, in my judgement, the President of the United States is a little more meek and docile than the public interests require?" Again, in a fair hit, he urged the Republicans to pass no bill curtailing the judicial power of their eminent jurist and illustrious soldier, Gen. Dick Busteed. He indulged in a little bitterness; the South had erred grievously, but grievously had she answered it; now the wounds should be healed, and these vacant seats illed ugain. Robinson of Erooklyn, with curling locks, and Scotch-Irish face, has made but one set speech, extravagant, violent, witty, with rambling to every topic under the sun. At last, having said all the irrelevant things he desired, after being called to order for the dozenth time by the good-humored House, he perpetrated a bull which set benches and galleries in a roar; "Mr. Speaker, you rule me out of order, I acquiesce, and will go on!"

Massachusetts has the ablest delegation. One the next. New-York and Fennsylvania vie with each other in weakness. Thomas of Maryland is the senior member; he first came to the House in '31, while one or two elsers still wore the knee breeches and cocked hats. Schuyler Colfax is oldest in continuous service. He entered in '34, and has missed no session since. No abler presiding officer ever sat in the chair of the House. He carries forward business with wonderful rapidity; decides intricate questions on the instant; is never perplexed, and never

tinuous service. He entered in 734, and has missed no session since. No abler presiding officer ever sat in the chair of the House. He carries forward business with wonderful rapidity; decides intricate questions on the instant; is never perplexed, and never overruled. Now, many voices name him for the Presidency. It is noticeable, as showing whither power is turning, that though Illinois supplied the candidate for the last two terms, every man now spoken of for the highest office—Chase, Colfax, Wade, Grant, Sheridan—comes from the West.

Thouas Jefferson's Manual is still the basis of all our parliamentary rules; though the present committee, Colfax, Banks, and Washburn have introduced material modifications. All the changes tend to expedite business, to limit the power of a minority in obstructing the majority. Now, en Mondays, and on the last ten days of a session, "fillibustering" is practicably impossible. Any decision of a speaker, and on the last ten days of a session, "fillibustering" is practicably impossible. Any decision of a speaker, appealed from by a member, and sustained by the House, becomes parliamentary law, unless it was obviously a political "dodge." A case of the latter was on the Kansas-Nebraska act. The Committee of the Whole had the bill. On motion of Alexander H. Stephens, leader of the Democracy, the Committee reported it back to the House, with its enacting clause stricken out. The Chair decided that this brought the bill again, immediately up, in its original form, with every amendment offered in the Committee cut off. A strict party majority sustained this ruling; and thus the act passed under the previous question. But as a parliamentary precedent, that ruling has always been held entary precedent, that ruling has always been held

Of the Senate, little is to be said. Here, with no Of the Senate, little is to be said. Here, with no check to debate, no previous question, the stream of rhetoric is perennial. I heard the Senate talk five hours last week on the questions whether the caucus decision not to consider anything but Reconstruction was binding upon Republicans, and if not, whether the Indian troubles required legislation. An equal convection of bank directors, railway managers, or merchants, would have settled both points in twenty minutes.

Wate of Ohio, who has been here 17 years, exerts by far the most influence. He is simple, direct, logical, and carries great weight through his abounding humanity and his spotless integrity. Trumbull of Illinois, compact, clear, incisive, enforces attention. Heary Wilson, carnest, indefatigable, always at the laboring oar, true as steel to the good canse, is one of the most useful members. Old Massachusetts, with all ber illustrious pages has hed few sons who have all her illustrious names, has had few sons who have done her more credit than the unpretending Natick Senator. Summer and Fessenden, always able, are both stronger in minerity than with a majority, buildings for artificial drying, though considerable to a Drake of Missouri is a logician, and tulk ative. Yates of Illinois, and Nye of Nevada, are boundless theteoretics and Nye of Nevada, are boundless the cambersome. Under all circumstances, a vigorous

of Illinois, and Nye of Nevada, are boundless thetoricians. On the Democratic side, Hendricks of Indiana, an able lawyer and a strong speaker, is acknowledged leader. Reverdy Johnson of Maryland, a walking legal cyclopedia, is listened to with attention, and appears in some doubt about his own political status.

The Congressional advocates of Impeachment are strong in brains, but weak in numbers. Confiscation has very few friends. I have heard but one member on the floor advocate the hanging of Jeff. Davis and his cabinet as traitors. All Republicans favor the investigation which has been ordered, to ascertain exactly how far the Rebel President and his advisers are responsible for the systematic starving of Union prisoners. If the Committee of Gen. Shanks does its duty, it will settle that question forever. The sentiment applanding Juarez for the executions of Maximilian, though in minority, is very strong. It rests, not on any love for capital punishment, but on belief that the late Prince atrociously violated the well-settled laws of war by his own bloody instructions, which finally returned to plague the inventor; and on the knowledge that France and Austria took advantage of our sore national distress to offer us a deadly national insule.

The House, though not equal to its predecessor in

The House, though not equal to its predecessor in the XXXIXth Congress, has many able men, and, as usual, is much the more interesting branch to a visi-tor, because it is the working body—the arena of detor, because it is the working body—the arena of debate. Still, it lacks the one great element of excitement, a strong belligarent minority. The Senate is indisputably a weak body. By and by, when we rise to a larger tolerance in non-essentials, and States grow proud of their strong, independent thinkers, perhaps pliant medicerity may be displaced at the Capital by our Ralph Waldo Emersons, and Henry Ward Beechers, and Robert Collyers.

A. D. R.

## MONTHLY AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

The last monthly report of the Commissioner of Agriculture contains a brief biographical aketch of the late Commissioner. He was born in Burlingfon Co., N. J., in 1800, passed his early years on the farm, and had the education of a farmer's boy. He was a conscientious and respected Quaker, and, after his marriage, he settled on a farm in Delaware Co., Pa., which he made a model. At an early period he was a member of the State Agricultural Society-he portance of establishing the Agricultural Bureauand, on the election of Mr. Lincoln, he was appointed its chief. Beside this most noticeable article, is a Report of an Agricultural Survey of the South. It describes the condition of the people, with regard to their necessities, the want of food, seed, teams and implements, relates what was done to supply them, most valuable addition to the literature of this Department, and it is well worthy the attention of the Southern people and of legislators. There is an article on sheep and their diseases in Texas, an important, though short one, on the propagation of fish, followed by a table on the condition of the crops. The fractional estimates, possibly, may be correct; they have less than a hundred chances for being so.

## A NEW CONGREGATIONAL ORGAN.

From Our Special Correspondent. CHICAGO, July 4, 1867.

On the first week in September there will be published in this city the first number of The Advance, the new National organ of the Congregational Churches, succeeding to the position voluntarily vacated by The Independent. Its pecuniary basis is a very large cash capital, subscribed in stock shares, and managed for the company by a Board of Directors. The shareholders at company by a Board of Directors. The shareholders at their annual meeting elect by ballot an editor-in-chief, who nominates to the Board of Directors his assistants. This editor-in-chief has absolute control of the contents of the paper daring his tenure of office; but, if his administration be unsatisfactory, he may be deposed by a summary vote of the Board. A business manager will have similar charge of the counting-room. The paper will be a quarto, of the size and style of The N. Y. Evangelist.

The Editor-elect is the Rev. William W. Patton, D. D., for the last ten years Pastor of the First Congregational Church in this cits, perhaps the most influential clarge.

THE PROGRESS OF PEAT INDUSTRY.

SIR: Knowing how deep and lively an interest you take in the advancement of our home-industry, I ing account of a visit paid a few days ago to Peat Company, situated in the neighborhood of Lloyd and Centreville in Ulster Co. This account of the plans and doings of the justnamed Company will, in the estimation of the writer of these bass, be the more welcome to the readers of Tun TRIBUNE, as it carries to them various new and Interesting facts hitherto not met with in any published article or essay on the nature of Peat and the development of the Peat industry.

Arrived at Poughkeepsie, the steam-ferry will take the visitor to New-Paltz landing oppposite, on the west side of the Hudson River. A pretty steep ascent over an otherwise good turnpike brings him to the neat and thriving village of Loyd, in Ulster County, and a ride of three miles more, in a northerly direction, vis a vis of Lake Chodikee, commonly called "Black Pond," the spot around which the Pent-bogs sprend.

The place is long known to Poughkeepsie (pic-nic) excursionists, who frequent it during the Summer season to fish on the well-stocked little Lake, to enjoy the wild pleturesque scenery and Falls at its outlet, or to have a fine view of the Hudson River Valley from the-mountain-tops adjoining on the east.

The property of the company embraces upward of 800 acres, 400 of which is solid Feat, 350 farming land and roods, and the balance-about 80 acres-water. The Lake is wholly imbedded within the land of the com-

The Peat-deposit is divided lengthwise by a stony ridge into two large bogs, each about a mile and a half in extent, and half a mile in width. The ridge is covered by the farmhouses and barns, orchards, and corn-fields, and on its western slope by brushwood and young timber. Fronting the Lake, on the eastern and western margin of the same, pienty of building sites can be selected, as the ground forms saddles or terraces, from which a fine prospeet over the valley and lake is had.

The soundings of these extensive Peat-bogs have proved them to be of an average depth of 2s feet, the whole yielding over fifteen million of tuns of wet, or about four millions of tuns of consolidated steam-pressed Peat.

To form an idea of the vastness of this deposit, it is only necessary to mention that it will require forty years to exhaust them, if one hundred thousand tuns of fuel are manufactured every year. Will the Company be able to produce this amount ! I have no doubt that it will, as all its preparations and arrangements, now in full progress, tend to this result at an early day. It requires but two such powerful dry presses as the one the Company is now the one already in operation, to enable it to produce without any over-exertion from 100,000 to 130,000 tuns of fuel in less than 300 working days. And would that pay! Let me, for curiosity's sake, answer this question before showing that the Company is proceeding in the right

The dark brown moss and grass or Ulmin-peat of these highlands is yielding a fuel that contains, at most, from ample) a density above that of bituminous coal, and equal this Pent-fuel is consequently worth more than, or, at sence of sulphur and other corroding substances makes manufacturing purposes; its ashes are mostly alkaline compounds, forming an excellent fertilizer. Can there be any reasonable doubt that this fuel will, as soon as known and appreciated, command as high a price in the gant opinion that a yearly production of the above men-tioned quantity of Peat-fuel would yield a very large

Why such results have not been secured heretofore in the Old World, or in this country, is easily explained. Without speaking of the time when no machinery was red, but Peat-cakes, formed in a mold by the hands sive wet pressing will not answer in an economical point of view, if the manufacture of Peat-fuel is to be presented on a large scale. To make the drying of the pressed Peat depend on the state of the weather, by buildings for artificial drying, though considerable to a wet-pressure business would soon put a limit to the spreading, furnace-drying, piling up, and storing capacity of any company. Adding to these difficulties the certainty that, even in a mild and favorable climate, scarcely more than six or seven months in a year can the wet-pressing be pursued-four months of frost and rain, and two months of Sundays and holidays seem to be a moderate estimate of unavoidable loss of time-we have a complete solution or explanation of the hitherto narrow extent and poor success of the Peat industry. It is further well understood that the wet-press ing can never give the meserial a density approaching that of mineral coal, requiring, consequently, a larger bulk to be transported in comparison with the latter. The introduction of dry-pressing was therefore indispen sable for a theroughly successful and amply remunerative embarkation in the manufacture of Peat-fuel. This for the first time, and on the most extensive scale, is the principal aim of the Hudson River Peat Company, while the wet-pressing is carried on more as an auxiliary, and chiefly to the end of furnishing also a lighter fuel that, along with the use of condensed steam-pressed Peat, may

serve as a kind of kindling material.

The Company has commenced its work on the bog west of the ridge, by the clearing of about forty acres of Peatland. The sod, after being removed from the surface, was piled up alongside of the cleared fields, there to be left to rot, and afterward used as fuel in the dry-house and under the boilers. Every acre of this cleared Peatland is divided by several small parallel ditches, which lead into traverse ditches of a deeper and wider cut, and into the main ditch, running eight feet wide and seven feet deep, right through the center of the whole bog from end to end. This main ditch is carried already to the length of over a mile; the whole ditching forms a unique and attractive piece of work. The rapid flow of the water in the ditches, and particularly in the main ditch, is indicative of the adopted drainage system. Apart from the main ditch, there have been cut through these cleared forty acres at least five miles of ditches, giving an idea of the amount of drainage work to be done on this single bog of upward of 200 acres. This drainage work is, however, not only important but absolutely necessary. Every measure of water that is not drawn off from the bed hi was among those who urged upon Congress the im- to be evaporated-a tedious, time-absorbing, and costly process, if we remember that the densest natural Peat ontains over 75 per cent of water, and that a good Peatfuel should not have retained more than 10 per cent of it. We shall presently learn of the judicious way in which the Hudson River Peat Company does avoid this hitherto atumbling difficulty of removing in the shortest possible time, and at the least cost, this large volume of water in

Peat. Before leaving the subject of drainage, it may not be out of the way to mention that the deeper ditches afford an excellent opportunity for studying the formation and nature of Peat. The upper strata, say from two to three feet below the sod-in other words the product of about a hundred years (Peat growing about half an inch per year)-present to the eye a substance less compact, lighter in color, and still abounding in undecomposed fiber; further down, however, the color of the Peatty mass changes to dark brown, and in some bogs or spots to real black, while the fiber is disappearing almost entirely, and one uniform dark and fatty body of far greater compactness is presenting itself, out of which, in some places, little rivulets of water are forcing their way into the ditches, and in other places an oily liquid is seen oozing out. This only liquid burns with a white flame, and is in every respect a species of petroleum, about the probable origin of which Prof. Forrest Shepherd, who examined these Peat deposits, starts the following hypothesis:

Peat deposits, starts the following hypothesis:

"The rocks forming the basin that contains the Peat property of the company belong to the dislocated and indurated sait formation; with this alteration they are the same as those that yield such an abundant supply of petroleum in Venango, Pa., and Little Kanauka, West Virginia. Whether these rocks still retain a portion of their petroleum, and gradually impart it to the Peat in contact, and important inquiry. From the richness of the Peat, and the show of petroleum in the excavations along the border of the bog, and the lively white flame it gives, I am inclined to think that it is the case, for southeasterly in the same county, and in the same formation, on shawangunk Mountain, I have noticed a distinctly visible small flow of petroleum."

I shall now proceed to speak of the harvesting of dry

I shall now proceed to speak of the harvesting of dry Peat by the Company, which the reader will find quite a new and interesting feature in the development of the

On two convenient points at the base of the ridge and | ing.

fronting the cleared fields, stand several weather-secured large storehouses (to which others will be added), capable of receiving many thousand tuns of dry Peat. From the gable end of these buildings, railways are running down an inclined plane right to the cleared fields, and dare presume you will find acceptable the followthe property and works of the Hudson River hence the dried Peat. A force of hundreds of hands would be required for the carrying and storing of the dried Peat without this railway system. A few men and one car perform within a few minutes an amount of work that otherwise would demand a dozen of hands and consume hours of time. A sufficient number of such storehouses will be erected, in order to be able to feed the dry press throughout the whole Winter, so that there will be ne interruption in the manufacture of Peat fuel all the year through. The dry Peat to be worked off during the good senson is not stored in the buildings, but thrown up in heaps alongside the railways, branches of which lead also directly to that part of the machine-house in which the elevator, that feeds the press, is working; thence all the dry Peat, not intended to be stored under roof for the Winter work, is carried. So far, about 3,000 feet of railway track are completed. The a Peat Slicer and Dryer, to be used in the preparation of dry Peat. One man, with a team and one of these machines, will slice and break up, ready for drying, several drained, which will then dry in from five to eight hours, according to the state of the weather. This rapid evaporation of so large a percentage of water is owing to the circumstance that the sliced and granulated Peat is spread over a great area in layers of not more than two or three inches in thickness. The "New-York machines, with which to gather the Peat after

Peat Machine Company" are also making gathering slicing and drying; one mun, one horse, and one gathering maching loading from 40 to 50 tuns of dry Peat per day into the cars, ready to be drawn to the press or store-houses. It is evident that, with these am-ple facilities, any quantity of Peat can be dried, stored and made ready for the presses during the fair season. There will be no difficulty, during the period of harvesting dry Peat, to carry every working day 200 tuns to the press and store 500 tuns beside. The bringing in of 1,000 tuns of dry Peat per day in the Summer season, from this one bog of more than 200 acres, would not even require the making and gathering of five stons from an acre. The removal of five tans from an acre, however, would amount to no more than a scarcely discernible scratching of its surface. It would thus be within the power of the company to harvest easily over 100,000 tuns of dry Peat in 150 working days from one-half of its Peat land.

As regards the manufacture of Peat-fuel, in both the wet and the dry way, the Company has thus far pro-ceeded as follows: While one of the wet-presses and appertaining engine have recently been put up and tested, waiting for the erection of the dry-houses and one mense and costly dry-pressure apparatus, has been completed some time since, and the engine and boilers that are to work the big press put in their proper places. This just now completed, and will shortly put it up. Said apparatus is presumed to be the most powerful press ever made, capable of manufacturing ten tuns of dry Peut per hour, ready for use, and reduced to the density of mineral coal. This pixes, complete with pumps, grinders, elevators, engine, &c., are estimated to weigh about 200,000 pounds, of which 20,000 pounds are steel, and from 70,000 to 80,000 pounds gun-iron. This press, by means of its elevator, takes the Peat from a pit in it is dumped from the cars, and delivers it finished and ready for use in the store-houses without any handling. The dry, granulated or powderlike Peat is subjected to a pressure which gives it greater density than that produced by any other press in the world. From the samples which I have seen, and of which one is before you, Mr. Editor, I do not think that the great expectations in reference to the power of the Emery press will be disappointed. The Company intended to have two of these New Paltz Landing, by means of which nearly a mile of the present distance from the Hudson River will be cut either pass through or near the property of the Company. From the foregoing account of the doings and aims of the Hudson River Peat Company it will have no difficulty to learn, that in many respects the manufacture of Peatfuel will henceforth materially vary from the methods

## GENERAL NEWS.

hitherto adopted, in order to make it an entire success, and a common institution all over the country. M. G.

There is talk of using the waters of the Falls Whittier first appeared in print in The Newbury (Conn.) Free Press in 1826.

The first number of The College Courant, the sor to the old Fale Courant, has been issued. At Maromaine, Wis., hailstones seven inches

in circumference did much damage to the crops.

The annual meeting of State teachers commences at Auburn, N. Y., on July 23. A National Horse Fair is to be held at Kala-

The annual convention of the Chi Psi Fraternity meets at Troy on the 16th and 17th. A very large attendance of delegates is expected.

A bird's-nesting little boy tumbled over a precipice in England 500 feet deep, and will never robbirds' nests again.

The great tabernacle of the Saints at Salt Lake City is now inched. It is 250 feet wide and formula Lake City is now ilmished. It is 250 feet wide, and furnishes comfortable sitting room for 10,000 people.

Two horse thieves have been tried and conricted before a military Court in Mississippi, under Gen. Ord's late order, and sentenced by him to five years in

the Dry Tortugas.

The Chicago police have begun prosecuting parties who rent their property to lewd characters to be used for yielous purposes. On Friday thirty or forty such persons were arrested and indicted by the Grand Jury.

A woman named Belle Norton, who had just been sentenced for right walking, attempted to commit suicide in the Superior Criminal Court of Boston, on Fri-day, by strangling herself with her hood. Two telegrams in cipher, were sent from New-Orleans Sunday morning, July 6, to the French Emperor and one of his Ministers, at a cost of \$13,000. It is sup-posed they refer to the murder of Maximilian.

A policeman in Albany used to carry in his pocket a quantity of snuff to throw into the face and eyes of a fractions prisoner. By this means the officer avoided the necessity of using his locust.

An enterprising London manager of a concert room gives his patrons three ballets, two hundred dancers, sixty instrumentalists, singers, acrobats, mimics, pictures, latest telegrams, saloons, supper-rooms, evening papers, and ten orchestra pieces, all for sixpence.

The fisheries on Eastern rivers are once more

quite prefitable, owing to the efforts for their proserva-tion. In Maine, Massachusetts, New-Hampsbire, and Connecticut, salmon and shad have appeared where they have not been seen for many years.

A man named Paine, in Menroe County, N.

. He is now in jail awaiting examination. A terrible disease, similar to the cholera, has

broken out among the freedmen on the plantations along the Yazoo River and in the lower part of Carroll county. Miss. It has every appearance of choicra, but is confined entirely to the negro population. Eleven of the latter had died within a few duys on one plantation, and lesser numbers on others, while many of the negroes are dangerously sick. A correspondent of The Rochester Union A correspondent of The Rochester Union writes that the passengers of the little steamer Flora City, on Lake Ontario, were horrified the other day at the appearance of a huge scrpent which raised its monstrons head in the front of the vessel's bow, and projected its jaws toward the promenade deck. The scrpent was about 50 feet long, and followed the steamer as a shark follows a staye shire.

follows a slave ship. The amount to be raised by tax in Jersey the amount to be raised by the first the freeze type is as foles:

### For street repairs, \$5,000; lighting streets, \$18,000; sice Department, \$00,000; support of poor, \$17,000; kind partment, \$23,600; public schools, \$50,000; shurles of y efficers, \$26,000; printing, \$7,000; election purposes. 52.000; public grounds, repairs, &c., \$6.500; interest on city debt, \$75,500; legal expenses, \$1.000; public health, \$5,600; stationery, \$5,500; Fourth of July, \$761; cleaning streets, \$7,000; deficiency, 1855, \$5,347 60; Relgian pavement, \$2,507 31; bell-tower and bell, \$8,000; coal, \$1,661 25; payment of city bonds, \$14,350. Total, \$400,507 25.

A newly married couple from New-York, who A newly married couple from New-Yerk, who had been visiting some relatives near Fentonville. Mich, were being driven in to take the cars a few days ago. When within a short distance of the railroad crossing they discovered the train rapidly approaching. The team was urged forward at a fartous rate and the track nearly reached when the bride became so much alarmed at the almost certain destruction awaiting them that she sprang from the carriage. The momentum received from the flying team threw her off her feet, and she fell directly across the track, while the ponderous engine was drawing fearfully near. With admirable presence of mind, she, instead of alterapting to rise up, threw her body around parallel with the track, and rolled off to one side, and safely rolled out of the way. Ficking herself up, she started for the depot, some 30 rods distant, and arrived there in time to take the train.

DECISION IN THE CENTRAL RAILROAD PARE

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., July 17.—The suit of Hiram Lewis against the New-York Central Railroad for extertion, in demanding specie payment for fare, was decided against the Company at the recent General Term, Justices Balcom, Mason, and Boardman all agreeTHE TRIAL OF SURRATT.

BREAK DOWN THE TESTIMONY OF WEIGH-MAN AND ST. MARIE.

BT TRIRGHAPH TO THE TRIBUNG. Washington, July 18 .- The trial of John H.

Surratt was resumed this morning in the Criminal Court, Judge Fisher presiding. The Rev. L. Rockofford sworn and examined by Mr. Mer-

rick-I knew Lewis J. Welchman, and have had conversations with him inside of the confessional.

tions with him inside of the confessional.

Question—Did Wetchman ever tell you that he was in office in the War Department, and that he was sending information to the Confederates I

Mr. Carrington objected.

Mr. Merrick read Weichman's testimony to show that the latter had said he never gave such information as is alimeted to above by Mr. Rockofferd.

Mr. Carrington argued that this testimony could not be given, as it went to a collateral issue, and it had no bearing upon this issue to show that Weichman had given information to the South. If the object was to prove that Weichman was a conspirator, facts must be produced to show the fact of such compileity.

Mr. Merrick said one object was to show that Weichman was an accomplice, and that he had testified merely for his own scentity. It was a substantial fact, and could be proven, because the testimony of an accomplice is to be taken with great grains of allowance. It was a well-settled rule that the testimony of an accomplice alone was not sufficient to scente a conviction.

upon the subject.

The Court said it would be proper if the Confederacy was the principal in the conspiracy.

Mr. Merrick contended that the Court had allowed witnesses to be examined as to their sympathies, and it was proper to show what Weichman's sympathies were.

The testimony was ruled out by the Court.

The Ree, J. A. Weiter sworn and examined by Mr. Merrick—I knew Mrs. Surratt, and was her spiritual adviser; I was present at Mrs. Surratt avowed her innocence to him on the day of the execution.

Mr. Pierrepont objected. Objection sustained, and the defense noted an exception.

Ouestion—Did not Fayne tell you on the day he was being led to execution that Mrs. Surratt was innocent?

Mr. Pierrepont objected. Objection sustained, and the defense noted an exception.

John G. Recees swors and examined by Mr. Bradley, jr.—I reside in Montreal, Canada, and am a tailor by occupation; I know the prisoner; made a Garibaldi for him in 1865; the Garibaldi is a plaited garment, plaited back and front, and has plain wristsands; it buttons close up to the threat; I have no doubt that Surratt is the man who bought the coat; after the purchase of the coat I saw surratt at my store; saw him before April 20, 1865; it was between the 11th and 18th of April; he left his measure on the sth or 9th of April; he afterward came to see me and said his coat was too tight, and he wanted me to after it I saw surratt at Futher Laplerre's; there was where I first got acquainted with him; I then invited him to my honse, and he staid with me two days.

Ey Mr. Eradley—ite staid at my house two days about

Mr. Bradley said he would withdraw the question for the present.

Cross consisted by Mr. Pierrepont—I am a tailor and my place of business is in Notre Damest. Montreal: I saw surratt at my shop on April sta or sth. 1865, when he came to get the ciothes, saw him again about the 11th of April; saw him afterward at Father La Pierre's, but cannot recollect the exact date: it was probably between April 17 and 20 that I saw Surratt; can't remember the day Mr. Milleria came for Surratt; I was in April, 1865, the latter part of April; on this occasion I left them at a tavern at Long Point; left Surratt there; beside the Garrhaldi lacket I made pantaleons for Surratt; there were four of its went to long Point.

Ry Mr. Bradley—Surratt came to me for a stick he left there before he went away, and I saw them there.

Surstield B. Nagle sucra and commend by Mr. Bradley, gr.—Reside at Montreal, and am an advocate; have resided in Montreal in 1869, 1860, and 1861; saw St. Marie resided in Montreal in 1869, 1860, and 1861; saw St. Marie there; I was educated at St. Mary's Jesus College, and Rnew Dr. McMillan's character at Lennoxville for truth and veracity; have heard his character at Lennoxville for truth and veracity; have heard his character was bad; from his general reputation I should have doubts of his truth under oath if I were interested myself. su's character was bad; from his general reputation I hould have doubts of his truth under eath if I were in-

terested myself.

Ry Mr. Pierrepont—Have heard many persons speak of McMillan's character; have heard antonic Trudeau speak of McMillan's character; have heard Antonic Trudeau speak of McMillan's character; have heard Antonic Trudeau speak of McMillan's character; have heard and the trial, and about Surratt's capture, and Trudeau asked me if the man who made the compaint sgainst Surratt was the same McMillan who had resided in Waterloe; I was suprised that McMillan should have denounced Survatt, because I looked upon it in the light of an informer; while at college with McMillan I never heard his character questioned; I took me part in the late-struggle; while the Treat" affair my sympathies were win the

witness bias; would not believe him from his general reputation.

\*Cross examined\*\*—Witness is a farmer; witness knows a priest named Boucher; witness was never his servant nor in his employ; Mr. Nagle first told witness about this case; Boucher also spoke to witness about it; witness paid a debt for Boucher to Dr. McMillan since a month ago; he did not say anything arabist McMillan; witness never said in the presence of Charles & Martin that he would do McMillan all the damage he could; witness has no reason to be McMillan's chemy; witness was a farmer in 1864; witness was never in the service of Boucher, but lived in the same house with him for three months in 1864; witness was never in the service of the bounds in 1864; witness was never in the service of the bounds of the bounds of the priest for his board, but used to drive him about in a carriage sometimes; witness cul-

every diligence to obtain their presence, and were in re-ceipt of telegrams to the effect that they were on the way. They would be here without a doubt this evening or to-morrow morning, when the defense would be able

e the case. Carrington said that under the circumstances, as it

or close the case.

Mr. Carrington said that under the circumstances, as a was alleged the evidence proposed to be offered was ameterial to the defense, it would be improper in the Government to interpose any objection to an admonment at this time. It was understood that they would close to-morrow morning with the testimony of these witnesets.

At 1:35 p. m. the Court took a recess until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

LETTER FROM THE WITNESS MATTHEWS. From The National Intelligencer, July 17,

The following communication has been sent to us by Mr. John Matthews, the only person who is able to give any information in regard to the letter written by J. Wilkes Booth, and addressed to the editor of The Nalional Intelligencer. Mr. Matthews was a witness in the Surratt trial, but was not permitted by the Court to testify in regard to the letter aliaded to. As statements have been publicly made in reference to Mr. Matthews's connection with this letter, he asks the publication of this communication in justification of himself and truth:

type of the south. If the object was to prove that weichman was a compirator, facts must be produced to sow the fact of such comparison of the south of the object was not been as the produced to sow the fact of such comparison, facts must be produced to the facts with great grains of allowance. It was a weight to be richen with great grains of allowance. It was a weight was not sufficient to continuely of an accompilee alone was not sufficient to control that, and sold he had never selected out that the tot estimony of an accompilee. So the subject of the Men who love their country better than gold or life.

JOHN W. BOOTH, PAYNE, HEROLD, ATZERODT. Eespectfully, John Matriews

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Paris Chamber of Commerce has published to the corsumption of various attainers relative to the consumption of various attainers of food, dress, &c., in the French capital. The amount of beef and multon tonsumed annually by the Parisians is vained at its millions of frames, and of bread at \$3 millions. The Parisians spend most money, however, on Sine, of which they buy 102 millions worth a year. Notwithstanding this, there is a large consumption of beer, duy and of 30 million frames worth being drunk yearly. The consumption of chocolate is increasing; its annual value bow annuant to 16 millions. Another favorite article of food is pastry. There are in Paris 522 pastry cooks, whose gross receipts amount yearly to upward of 21 millions. About has this sum is spelly yearly in confectionery bonbons. Ac. Escides this, 10 millions are spent every year by the Paristans in restantants, the same amount on tailors, 3 millions for corsets, 15 millions for falses diamonds, 1,500,000. for false teath, 84, eoor, for glass eyes, 739,000. for masquerade dresses, 22 millions for perfumery and cosmettes, 5 for fans, 23 for artificial flowers, and 15 for buttoms.

From the days of Don Whiskerando down-

while at college with McMillan I never heard his character questioned; I took no part in the late struggle; during the "Trent" affair my sympathies were with the South during the struggle I sympathized mere with the South during the struggle I sympathized mere with the South during the struggle I sympathized mere with the South during the struggle I sympathized mere with the South than with the North; I do not know that any charges were ever toade against me in Montreal; I never was public prosecutor or city prosecutor in Montreal. I never I had a case I would not believe McMillan; If I had a case I would not want him for a witness; as a jurer I would not believe him.

Louis W. Shotts was sworn, and Col. O'Beirne was sworn as interpreter for him.

Mr. Carrington objected to Mr. Sheotts testifying through an interpreter.

The Court decided that the witness should first try to speak in English, and if he could not be understood then the interpreter could be used.

The Wilness—I reside in Montreal, Canada; am an advocate by profession; am now employed in the Crown Law Department; have resided in Montreal since 1885; I know his reputation for truth and veracity; It is very bad; I would not believe him on his oath.

Cross-cramained—I first saw St. Marie when he was a

vecans by profession; am now employed in the Crown Law Department; have resided in Mourreal is since is six is how well, if it is very bad; I would not be for truth and vecanity; if I would not be for truth and vecanity; if I would not be for truth and vecanity if I would not be for truth and vecanity if I would not be for truth and who specked with this on bestness, and know many as I was student at Mr. Lochambeur's I have specken with him on bestness, and know many as I was the forest who have known him since his birth, and who spoke very badly of him; I do not know that he ever studied a benefit when the was shared to be worn at the pleasure of the hidden of the following of the probability of the probab

Dr. Mills of Calhoun, on the Mobile and Montgomery Railroad, was shot and killed by his brother-in-law, named Renfro, on the 10th, under these circumstances: They were living in the same house, and cropping together. Dr. Mills had been out to see a patient, and had just returned home. During his absence a dispute had occurred between the ladies about some chickens. A few words passed between the men, when Renfro went out of the room and got a double-barrel shot-gun, and came back and shot down Dr. Mills while standing beside his wife.

mover said in the presence of Charles's, Martin that he would do McMillan all the damage he could; witness has no reason to be McMillan's enemy; witness was a farmer in 1864; witness was never in the service of Boncher, but lived in the same house with him for three menths in 1864; witness did not work for the priest for his board, but used to drive him about in a carriage sometimes; witness cultivated a farm of 50 acres and pand \$60 ront; went to board at the house of Boncher in the last of May, and left it in the Autumn; went back again in January, and left it in the Autumn; went back again in January, and left it in the Autumn; went back again in January, and left it in the Autumn; went back again in January and left it in the Autumn; went back again in January and left it in the Autumn; went back again in January and left it in the Autumn; went back again in used to the same here; with it is soon to be put in practical operation upon some of the horse-car likes in and about the city. The ordinary cars wigh some to,000 pounds, about one-half of which weight is for the boilers and propelling machinery. In the older and machinery of the car which was experimented with on Saturday weigh less than 1,250 pounds, and it is claimed that by substituting steel for iron even the bound of the car which was experimented with on Saturday weigh less than 1,250 pounds, and it is claimed that by substituting steel for iron even the bound of the car which was experimented with on Saturday weigh less than 1,250 pounds, and it is claimed that by substituting steel for iron even the bound of the car which was experimented with on Saturday weigh less than 1,250 pounds, and it is claimed that by substituting steel for iron even the bound of the car which was experimented with on Saturday weigh less than 1,250 pounds, and it is claimed that by substituting steel for iron even the bound of the car which was experimented with on Saturday weigh less than 1,250 pounds, and it is claimed that by substituting steel for iron even the cou